



THE PUZZLE IN THE MEAT SITUATION

(Written Specially For The Bulletin.)

It is, I believe, considered the proper thing to blame the big meat-packer of the middle west for the high price of meat. Anybody that is about what most people do. Moreover, they do it with a sustained vigor which indicates that they find a real enjoyment in the proceeding.

Now, I'm not disposed to take up any cudgels in behalf of the meat-packer. On general principles it may be set down as an economic truth that men who have managed to amass millions by buying meat on the hoof from one set of farmers and then selling it in the carcasses to other sets of farmers, etc., are perfectly capable of taking care of themselves, without volunteer assistance. My sympathies are not with them, in any case, but with the farmers from whom they buy stock at low prices and with the hungry buyers to whom they sell it at prices sufficient to carry them into the millionaire class.

Did you notice the government's recent report on the livestock holdings of the country?

While the human population of the United States increased quite a little during the past year, the live stock population fell off. It fell off to the aggregate value of \$2,500,000,000, and to the aggregate number of almost 10,000,000 head. The decrease occurred in every species of domestic animals, including horses and mules, but was greatest in the milk and meat varieties. For example, the number of horses owned decreased less than three per cent., and the number of mules less than one per cent., while the number of cattle and sheep decreased over four per cent., and of swine over seven per cent.

It is to be noted, in this connection, that the decrease in values was even greater, proportionately, than the falling off in numbers. And, by the way, it may be interesting to know that the average value of a sheep throughout the country was \$4.41 a head, last December, and of a hog \$12.29 a head. The average value of the twenty million horses Uncle Sam feeds was \$52.45 and that of his five million mules \$93.97.

Our interest as three-times-a-day hungry people lies more in the meat, producing animals. And, during last year, there was \$232,000,000 less paid for cattle than the year before, and \$477,000,000 less for hogs to the beef and pork producers. They sold, between them, something near five million less steers and calves and hogs and lambs.

In the old days, before the amazing administration at Washington undertook to assume control of all business and before the genera of organized profiteers joined hands with it in looting the land, there used to be a law known as that of supply and demand. The administration sought to nullify it and substitute a theorem of its own devising. The profiteers were swift to see in the disturbances which resulted their chance for self-enrichment. Between them they have managed to hold up the operations of the law in some respects. But not in all, and not as a permanency.

It is possible, by undergoing sufficient expense, to fence off with costly breakwaters a harbor or two, here and there along the ocean coast. But no breakwater was ever yet invented which could stay or even much hinder the sweep of the incoming tides or shut off a whole continental coast-line from the towering surges which roar in.

"When demands on the Atlantic coast are great," says the "equinox." Being a natural law, like that which governs tides and storms, the law of supply and demand was never wholly abrogated and is now once more in pretty complete control.

It means, in effect, that when the demand for anything is greater than the supply, price goes up; when the supply is larger than the demand, price goes down. If there is less of any article than people need, the seller naturally sells to the highest bidder; if there is more of the article than people want, the buyer takes from the cheapest seller.

Apply that, if you please, to the meat situation. There were several million more people in the country last year than the year before, and there were several million less steers and calves and sheep.

The more people there are, the larger the demand for beef and veal and lamb. That goes without saying. Yet, instead of there having been an increase in the number of these meat animals during the

year, there was a very considerable decrease. The demand was larger, because of the increased number of eaters. The supply was less, because of the decreased number of live stock for slaughtering.

What would you naturally expect in such a case? What else than that the price would rise?

That it didn't, that it has actually decreased slightly can be due only to the fact that the original producers, the stock-growers, have been compelled, by one circumstance or another, to take losses instead of profits on their work. But they are not going to keep that up as a steady thing. They can't. If they should, they would either go into bankruptcy or starve to death, themselves. And men don't run farms, any more than other businesses, with either bankruptcy or starvation as chief objects in view.

What they are doing is plainly indicated by the figures of the government's report. Having been compelled to sell their fat stock for less than the cost of fattening, they are going out of the business, as many of them can, and as rapidly as they can. According to all probabilities, there will be even less meat animals at the end of this year than there are now. With a whole lot more people clamoring for the meat which they can't get.

I don't know how much the big packers have had to do with bringing this condition into effect. Naturally, one would expect them to be zealous in fostering an enlargement of the livestock growing industry. The more carcasses they handle the more are their opportunities for profit. The bigger their business, the bigger their aggregate gains. This would be the first thought of anybody. Perhaps it is wrong. Perhaps there are other factors entering into the problem which outweigh the desirability of an enlarged business. As I've said, I don't pretend to know the ins and outs of the stockyard trade. Nor its details. Nor its tricks.

But can't you see, if there are three million people calling for meat, and three million less carcasses on sale to supply them, that there is less meat for each individual? And how can you expect with more meat being called for and less meat being supplied, that the price can go down to the old-time basis?

When meat is plenty it can't help being cheap. When meat is scarce, do you know any recipe for preventing it from being dear? I don't.

We can denounce the packers to our heart's content; we can abuse the market; we can pull out our own hair and tear our own shirts in the frenzy of our indignation. But we can't permanently stay the operation of the law of supply and demand, any more than we can effectively halt the movement of an Atlantic tide.

When there is more meat being offered than the public can absorb, it will be cheap; no cheap that the sellers may come to offering premiums to anyone who will take it off their hands. When there is less meat than the public wants and demands the owner seller will hold it for the highest bidder's price. And that price will "make the market" every time.

The whole problem is an extremely complicated one. There doesn't appear on any horizon any simple formula for settling it.

Meat-growers will not produce meat animals unless they can do so at a profit. At present prices of feedstuffs and labor, this means they must get bigger pay for the animals, on the hoof, than now. Yet the public demands cheaper meat from the butchers, which they can't supply unless they, too, make a profit. And they can't make their profit selling meat cheaply unless they can buy the animals cheaply.

How are you going to arrange it so the stock-raiser can get higher prices for his livestock, and the meat-buyer be given lower prices for his steaks and chops?

Talk about the problem of what would happen should an irresistible force meet an immovable body! That's a simple comparison with the puzzle which the meat situation puts before us. How are you going to make two mutually antagonistic and self-contradictory facts occupy the same space at the same time?

I wish somebody would tell me, for I'd like a good steak once more before I die, and, at present prices, with present farmers' incomes, such a desire is about as remote from possibility as a wish for the moon.

With a gold ring 'round it.

THE FARMER.

JEWETT CITY

Rev. E. M. Anthony, Mrs. Annie C. Soule, Mrs. W. C. Jeffers and Mrs. Robert Johnson attended the meeting of the Methodist Ministerial Association in Danbury last week.

Mrs. Edwin J. Farrell, of Wauregan spent Thursday with Mrs. E. H. Hiscop. P. H. Gilbert returned Friday from a trip to Detroit, Mich., going from Springfield on the special train provided by the Studebaker people for their guests.

Slater library will be closed Saturday, Lincoln's birthday. The bank will not be open, and the post office will be closed from eight to six-thirty, the lobby being open at all times. R. P. D. patrons may obtain their mail from the postoffice from six to eight a. m., only and not in the evening.

The Gardner class of the Methodist church met at Mrs. E. B. Cheney's this week. This year's officers are: Mrs. A. C. Soule, president; Mrs. B. B. Cheney, secretary and Mrs. R. W. Robertson, treasurer. Following the business meeting the members served an dinner entertained with piano solos by Miss Annie Robertson also played piano selections. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess.

The Ladies' society of the Congregational church served a roast pork supper in the vestry Wednesday evening. Mrs. Frank Wilcox was in charge of the supper. The total receipts were sixty-six dollars.

Mike Lipka and Tony Turon were badly scalded Tuesday morning when cans which burst at Aspinok, blechery. The corporation nurse, Miss Moodie, gave first aid treatment and Lipka was sent to Backus hospital. Both men are doing well.

Stereopticon lecture, Travel Tour of Canada. Riverdale Grammar school to-night—adv.

The meeting of the Y. M. C. A. is to be held tonight and will be a stunt night at the Bijou.

Superintendent of Schools F. H. P. Clement gave a stereopticon lecture entitled "Travel Tour of Canada" in the hall at Glasgow Wednesday evening. There were seventy-two colored slides. About \$16 was taken in for the benefit of the Gango school.

Parents' Day will be observed at the Riverdale school today (Friday) from 1 to 2:30 o'clock.

YANTIC

Wareham W. Bentley has filled his house with clear 10-inch ice.

Herbert Smith's orchestra conducted a dance at Fire Engine hall Wednesday evening. It proved a great success.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Louis Oliver of Manchester were week end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hamilton.

St. John's spent a few days this week in Palmer, Mass., on business for the Central Vermont railway.

Miss Frances Wells has returned to New London after a week and stay at the home of her parents here.

The debris from slate quarries, ground into dust, is now converted into face powder.

SHUNOC

Friends here attended the funeral of Hattie Watson, wife of Willett Thompson, held at her home at Westley Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Thompson was born in North Stonington (Pendleton Hill district) in 1833, the daughter of Meritt and Cynthia Park Watson. She married in 1816 Willett Thompson of Westley. Surviving are her husband and two small children. She had many friends and her sudden passing is deeply regretted.

Mrs. Harriet Chapman and son, Arthur Chapman, of Preston were in this place Saturday, guests of Mrs. Mary A. Lee. Many friends, relatives and neighbors attended the funeral of Miss Mary F. Burdick, held in the Congregational church Monday morning at 11 o'clock. Rev. O. D. Fisher, pastor of the church, officiated. There were beautiful floral tributes. The bearers were Frank White, Ernest Gray, Edwin White and L. C. Gray. Burial was in the D. B. Wheeler cemetery adjacent to the village and Rev. Mr. Fisher read the committal service at the grave.

There was a special town meeting in town hall Tuesday evening, during the session of the school supervisor.

Rev. Frank S. Robbins of Preston will speak at the Third Baptist church Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Mrs. E. B. James, Artie and Ida James and Thomas Jones were guests Tuesday evening of Mrs. Nathan P. Culver at Westley. Mrs. Culver was formerly a resident of Shunoc.

Parties in pursuit of foxes shot two large gray ones Tuesday north of this place.

The Young People's league held a very interesting social evening in the Congregational vestry. There was a full attendance.

GRISWOLD

The Ladies Aid society met at Mrs. Yarnest Christopher's Thursday.

The C. E. meeting was at Mrs. Christopher's Sunday evening. The meeting was interesting. Seventeen were present.

Mrs. Pepin of Hopeville, who is in Willimantic hospital, is very comfortable and hopes of her recovery are very bright.

Mrs. Emily Campbell is caring for Mrs. Bishop, who recently suffered a shock. Victor Campbell and family, William Bishop and family, attended a 25th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Dawley in Voluntown recently.

Mrs. Jane Lester was called to Mystic Monday by the sudden death of her cousin, Mrs. Wilcox.

Stephen Peckham and daughter Laura of Norwich called on Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Edmond recently.

The benefit social and dance was largely attended Saturday evening at the hall. Thirty dollars was the proceeds, which will buy an oil stove for the benefit of the community. James Carey, William Bitgood and William Montgomery were the committee of arrangements.

Mrs. Douglas of Hopeville is as comfortable as can be expected in her illness.

WESTMINSTER

"Be not weary in well doing" was the pastor's text at morning worship Sunday.

St. John 4: 27-42, "Christ's call to work and the world's need and opportunities," is the subject for the circle of prayer at home altars, Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Mrs. Fred P. Brown returned from Backus hospital, Norwich, where she had a successful operation for appendicitis, Friday of last week, and she continues to gain.

Mr. Page of New York and Westminster has returned after a brief visit with his children at Rest Awhile.

Miss Emma Jacobson of New York is visiting her cousin, Mrs. Axel Hellstrom, and family.

On account of the extension school held in Grange hall and the Green church for the benefit of those in that region, the town W. C. T. U. February meeting has been postponed to Wednesday of next week, at 2:30 p. m., at Mrs. Fred Kinney's.

A large white ash, marking the north-west boundary of the lot on which the parsonage dwelling stands, was filled last week by R. A. Jones and son Walter and numerous assistants. It was a very handsome tree for many years, visible at some distance, in approaching from any direction. Some years ago it was struck by lightning, which killed half of it. Since then it has put up a strong fight for life, and the past remaining has been a joy to see. But death of the trunk had made it a serious menace to the parsonage and all passersby on both roads and for safety it had to be removed.

Arthur Merrifield of New York was a week end visitor at the Moodys'. Westminster guild is planning a Valentine social next week.

Notices have been received here that a social service conference under the Connecticut Federation of Churches will be held in New Haven Feb. 15 and 16, with a strong program of speakers. All sessions are open to the public.

WHITE ROCK

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Leonard entertained a party of out of town friends Sunday.

Mrs. Susan Andrews of Potter Hill was a recent guest of her daughter, Mrs. Fred Keyson.

Mrs. Edgar Sweet has returned home from Centerville, R. I., where she spent the latter part of the week, after the burial of her husband.

Misses Sarah and Ruth Brook returned home Tuesday evening from Providence, where they had been to attend a wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Hossie of Lebanon were callers at David Nason's Friday afternoon.

Howard Thomas was a caller in Norwich Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hudson attended the wedding of their niece which took place in Providence Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lynch, who were married a few weeks ago, are keeping house in the Welch tenement.

Mrs. Edna Sweet is entertaining her sister from Portsmouth, N. H., Justin A. McCarthy and Miss Dolores.

Edwin P. Morrow

HARTFORD MAN

SUFFERED FROM BLOOD PRESSURE

Mr. P. E. Sheldon of 14 Queen Street, Hartford Thought He Would Try CINOT For High Blood Pressure and Dizzy Spells, He Is Glad He Did For It Helped Him Quick.

remedy is one of the best and surest eliminants known today in the Herbal World. We have testimonials from people that have suffered from lead poisoning that it has produced the most wonderful and surprising results and hundreds of cases of rheumatism and stomach trouble have responded to it like magic. There is no question about CINOT, it is the sensation of the year. Mr. Sheldon says:—

"For some years I have suffered with a high blood pressure and terrible dizzy spells and had to give up my work. I tried many methods to get well but with no success, my general system was running down rapidly and I had constipation and loss of appetite and was restless in my sleep and the sleep I did get did me no good at all. I have taken six bottles of CINOT and am back to work and have no bad symptoms, can eat and sleep and am gaining every day."

CINOT IS FOR SALE IN NORWICH

BY H. M. LEROU, AND ALL OTHER FIRST-CLASS DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

France were married Tuesday morning at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Westley. In the evening a reception was held for the newlyweds at the home of the bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael McCarthy.

WILSONVILLE

Joseph Shields of Boston visited with his sister, Mrs. Ed Keegan, Saturday last.

Miss Lena Fagan and a friend from Exbridge, Mass., visited the former's aunt, Mrs. L. Keegan, Sunday.

Mrs. Agnes Durfee was in Webster one day the past week.

Miss Fanny Jennings of Webster called on local friends one day recently.

Anna Sabolik, who has been at work in Webster, is at home. Her sister has taken her place.

School had only one session Wednesday.

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CHECKERBOARD COFFEE—Finest Grown, 39c Lb.

COCOANUT, lb. . . . 33c

SWEETENED

SOUPS, 3 cans. . . . 36c

ALL KINDS

Rollod Oats, Bulk 5 Lb. . . 25c

COCOA—Bulk, lb. . . 15c

RAISINS, Seeded, Pkg. 29c

Baking Powder XX, lb. 30c

"MAKES YOUR BREAD TASTE BETTER"

"SWEET NUT" MARGARINE, lb. 31c

SUPREME 5 Lbs. for \$1.50

J. C. MACPHERSON—Furrier

February Clean-up of Ladies' Fur Coats, Muffs and Neck Pieces

Owing to the absence of real winter weather we have on hand more furs than we care to carry over, and in order to move them we are offering the women of Norwich and vicinity a wonderful opportunity to buy furs of the highest character and quality at prices that from present indications are lower than next season's prices will be.

These Fur Coats are of such a superior quality that they should not be confused with coats of inferior quality that are so generally offered.

Australian Opossum Coat, 36-inch length, large self collar and cuffs, value \$550.00—

NOW \$300.00

Pony Skin Coat, 36-inch, deep cape collar and cuffs of Squirrel, value \$350.00—

NOW \$175.00

French Seal Coat, 36-inch length, self collar and cuffs, value \$450.00—

NOW \$265.00

Colored Madras, \$1.00

36-inch Colored Madras, for Over-dresses, in brown, rose and green—Price new \$1.00 a yard, formerly \$1.25.

50-inch Sunfast, \$1.39

50-inch Sunfast for Over-dresses, a good width, can be split and used to good advantage—Price new \$1.39, formerly \$2.25.

85c Marquisette, 59c

36-inch Marquisette, with neat lace edging—Price new 59c a yard, formerly 85c.

59c Marquisette, 33c

36-inch Marquisette, white, cream and ecru, with neat open-work border—Price new 33c a yard, formerly 59c.

36-inch Colored Border Scrim, in a good assortment of patterns and colorings—Price new 17c a yard.

36-inch Colored Border Scrim, 17c

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French Seal Coat, large collar and cuffs of Squirrel, value \$500.00—

NOW \$290.00

Hudson Seal Coat, beautiful 36-inch, with collar and cuffs of Squirrel, value \$800.00—

NOW \$485.00

Raccoon Coat, rich dark skins, 36-inch, self collar and cuffs, value \$450.00—

NOW \$250.00

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QUALITY CORNER

OPP. CHELSEA SAVINGS BANK

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Is Your Blood Impoverished

Are Your Nerves Unstrung

Are You Irritable and Depressed

Do You Feel All Run-down

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A frequent cause of lack of vital power—impoverished blood—shaky nerves—irritability—depression and run-down vitality—is a real shortage in the body of several mineral elements particularly Iron, Calcium, Potassium, Sodium and Phosphorus.

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contains all these mineral elements in appropriate proportions and agreeable form. So that by taking Wincarnis you supply to the body the mineral elements that are necessary in the production of vital energy. Thus you enable the body to create vital power—make the blood rich and red—strengthen the nerves—and promote vigor, vitality and endurance. Over 10,000 physicians have recommended Wincarnis. Try Wincarnis for yourself.

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